

OFFICE OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

JOHN McCARTHY, STATE'S ATTORNEY



Year in Review 2022



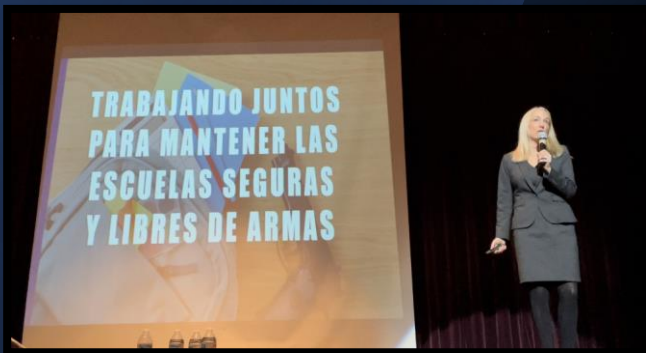


2022 has been a busy year as we worked to catch up on court proceedings delayed by COVID-19 and tackle an uptick in violent crime that we've experienced in the wake of the pandemic.

We continue these efforts, and along with prosecuting crimes committed in Montgomery County, the State's Attorney's Office also focuses on education and preventing citizens from becoming victims of crime.

We are incredibly proud of this work and wanted to highlight some of it for you here as we wish you and your family a very Happy and Healthy 2023!

Prioritizing School Safety



This fall, State's Attorney John McCarthy and members of the State's Attorney's Office visited every public high school in the county, delivering assemblies on Gun Violence Prevention and Keeping Schools Safe to more than 50,000 high school students. This unprecedented effort, in partnership with Montgomery County Public Schools, was aimed at educating students about the law and reminding them that they have a role to play in school safety. We stressed the message, 'If you see something, say something,' and shared information about vital resources including the [Safe Schools Maryland tip line and website](#).

Gun Buyback

As part of our ongoing efforts to tackle the number of guns on the streets and reduce gun violence, the State's Attorney's Office partnered with Rockville City Police and Montgomery County Public Schools ahead of the start of the school year to host an anonymous, no questions asked, gun buyback event. Several hundred guns were collected including ghost guns.

FOX5 Live News Weather Good Day Traffic Contests More

Hundreds of guns collected during buyback event in Montgomery County

By FOX 5 DC Digital Team | Published August 28, 2022 3:49PM | Maryland | FOX 5 DC



Gun buyback event held in Montgomery County

The Rockville Police Department held a gun buyback event on Saturday that helped bring in more than 300 guns to police.



Diversionary Programs

We congratulate this year's Drug Court and Mental Health Court graduates for successfully completing these life-changing programs.

Our prosecutors often recommend or sign off on a defendant's entry into a program. In one case, an Assistant State's Attorney was the victim of a burglary. She agreed to Drug Court and was there to cheer on the defendant as he graduated.

Our Truancy Prevention Program pairs volunteers with students to encourage active participation in academics. We believe education is key to staying on the right path in life. In 2022, we worked one-on-one with approximately 300 students in 18 middle schools.

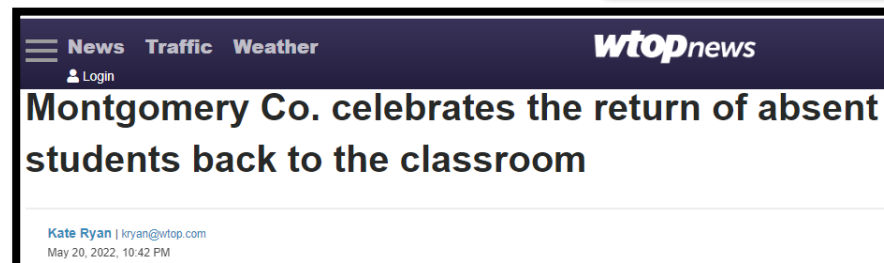
MARYLAND NEWS

Over 50 people graduate from Drug Court and truancy programs

by: Lex Juarez

Posted: May 19, 2022 / 12:33 AM EDT

Updated: May 19, 2022 / 11:31 AM EDT





Elder Abuse Prevention

State's Attorney McCarthy and members of our CASVA Unit (Crimes Against Seniors and Vulnerable Adults) visited dozens of senior centers and gathering places across Montgomery County to discuss common fraudulent activities, scams and other types of financial exploitation that target seniors.

Throughout the month of April, Mr. McCarthy partnered with Eric Friedman, Director of the Office of Consumer Protection, and County Councilmember Evan Glass to visit six locations and speak, both in-person and virtually, to thousands of seniors- empowering them with knowledge about risk factors and ways to prevent themselves from becoming a victim.

Community Outreach

Members of our Community Outreach Team represented the State's Attorney's Office at dozens of community events, including the multi-day Hometown Holidays celebration in Rockville, Olney Days, and the Placemakers Festival in the East County, as well as four "Summer of Peace" events, several MCPD-sponsored youth law day classes at the Circuit Court, an anti-gun violence March in Germantown, the Public Safety Open House at MCPD's Fourth District Station, Career Day at Baker Middle School, and the first "Get to Know the SAO" outreach table at the Long Branch Library. Once again, the Team coordinated and helped staff SAO's participation in National Night Out.

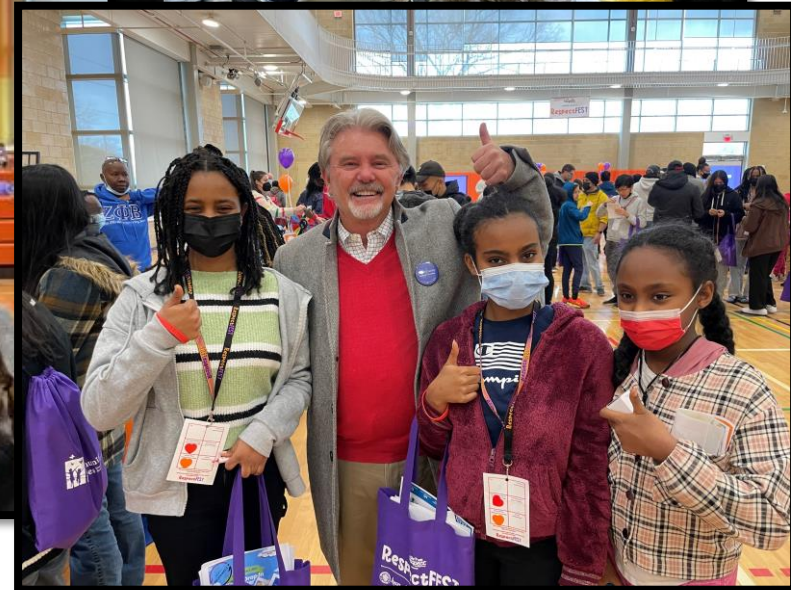
Our Special Victim's Unit helped organize Montgomery County's Domestic Violence Awareness Month efforts in partnership with the Sheriff's Office and Family Justice Center.



Engaging with Youth

The Community Outreach Team made dozens of presentations on cyberbullying and “Speak Up, Save a Life” (our opioid abuse and overdose awareness and prevention program) to a wide variety of groups, including students at numerous high schools and middle schools, and PTAs.

We also partnered with the Family Justice Center for #RespectFest which was attended by more than 600 students. The event sheds light on teen dating violence prevention.



Happy New Year!

We pledge to continue working to ensure Montgomery County is the best place to live and work into 2023 and beyond. From all of us at the S.A.O., have a safe and happy holiday!



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